

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (currently amended) An animal care garment comprising:
a front panel communicating with a back panel at a pair of spaced shoulder apexes to
present a neck opening therebetween,
said panels having a first top surface covering one of said shoulder apexes and a second
top surface covering the other of said shoulder apexes,
a pair of elongated, generally cylindrical, flexible, washable pads, said pads sized to a
cross-sectional width optimized to serve as a perch for a small animal, said pads
secured in parallel along the shoulder line to at least one of said top surfaces to
form a channel between said pads,
means for attaching an object to said garment, said attachment means extending from said
channel, and

an outer wall spaced away from the outer, lower surface of at least one of said panels,
said wall to define an open-topped receptacle for receiving debris falling from ~~the~~
said shoulder apex.

5. (original) The animal care garment of claim 4 wherein said pad comprises fabric-covered rope.

6. (original) The animal care garment of claim 4 wherein said pad comprises foamed polymeric material.

7. (currently amended) An animal care garment comprising:
a panel having a longitudinal axis, a transverse axis, an outer edge and an inner edge, said
outer edge defining the perimeter of said panel and said inner edge defining an
aperture sized to accept the neck of a wearer, said aperture disposed near the
intersection of said axes,
at least one pair of parallel, flexible pads attached to a portion of a top surface of said
panel located along said transverse axis and between said inner and outer edges,
and
a walled channel formed between said pads.

8. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 wherein said pads each comprise a section of rope.
9. (original) The animal care garment of claim 8 wherein said rope is formed of synthetic water resistant material.
10. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 wherein said pad comprises foamed polymeric material.
11. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 wherein said pads are sized to a cross-sectional width optimized to serve as a perch.
12. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 wherein each of said pads has a first end and a second end, said first end secured to said panel in proximity to said inner edge, said second end secured to said panel in proximity to said outer edge, whereby each of said pads lies substantially along said transverse axis.
13. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 further comprising a means for securing an object in proximity to said pads.

14. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 further comprising a loop secured between said pads.
15. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 further comprising means for receiving food and waste.
16. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 further comprising means for carrying small animals.
17. (original) The animal care garment of claim 7 further comprising a lip extending from a portion of said outer edge so that when said garment is placed upon the shoulders of a wearer, said lip forms a receptacle for receiving food, waste or other matter traversing along an outer surface of said panel.
18. (new) An animal care garment comprising:
a front panel communicating with a back panel at a pair of spaced shoulder apexes to present a neck opening therebetween,
said panels having a first top surface covering one of said shoulder apexes and a second top surface covering the other of said shoulder apexes,
a pair of elongated, generally cylindrical, flexible, washable pads secured in parallel along the shoulder line to at least one of said top surfaces, and

means for receiving and retaining debris falling from said shoulder apexes.

19. (new) The animal care garment of claim 18 further comprising means for attaching an object to said garment, said attachment means extending from one of said top surfaces.
20. (new) The animal care garment of claim 18 wherein each of said panels includes a lower perimeter and transverse sides and wherein said means for receiving and retaining comprises a lip extending around said sides and lower perimeter of at least one of said panels.
21. (new) The animal care garment of claim 18 wherein said means for receiving and retaining comprises a pocket including an outer wall extending upward from a lower perimeter of said front panel and part way along a side of said front panel, whereby debris projected from said shoulder apex may be captured and retained within said pocket.